

United States Congress

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 19, 2012

0519

The Honorable Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

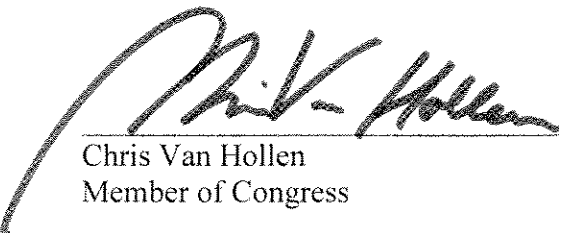
We support your efforts to increase the amount of wireless spectrum available for next-generation broadband services. Success in this endeavor will help many more Americans have better access to broadband, improved service, and more choice. At the same time, many companies will invest in new technology and infrastructure, creating high-quality jobs in the process. One such company could be Hughes Network Systems of Germantown, Maryland, which is working with its parent company, EchoStar (an affiliate of DISH Network), to develop satellite/terrestrial hybrid wireless broadband platforms.

We have endeavored in Congress to ensure that the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") would not be restricted in its ability to put satellite spectrum to use as a means of delivering wireless broadband. Most recently, as members of the conference committee on the Middle Class Tax Relief & Job Creation Act of 2012 (H.R. 3630), we supported adoption of spectrum legislation that would not tie the FCC's hands in allocating Mobile Satellite Service ("MSS") spectrum for terrestrial use.

We were pleased by the FCC's unanimous adoption a rulemaking order last month that might let MSS S-Band licensees provide terrestrial broadband service in a more efficient manner than current rules permit. This is precisely the type of action the FCC can and should take when Congress allows an expert agency to use its best judgment on highly technical matters. We encourage the Commission to complete the rulemaking as expeditiously as possible.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact either of us directly, or have your staff contact Gray Maxwell (Cardin) at 202/224-4524 or Ken Cummings (Van Hollen) at 202/225-5341.

Sincerely,



Chris Van Hollen
Member of Congress



Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senator

BLC: dgm



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

May 9, 2012

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senate
509 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cardin:

Thank you for your letter supporting the Commission's proposal to free more spectrum for broadband by removing regulatory barriers and providing for flexible use of MSS spectrum in the 2 GHz band. I value your views, which will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "J. Genachowski", is written over the word "Sincerely,". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping "J" and a long horizontal stroke.

Julius Genachowski



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

May 9, 2012

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Chris Van Hollen
U.S. House of Representatives
1707 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Van Hollen

Thank you for your letter supporting the Commission's proposal to free more spectrum for broadband by removing regulatory barriers and providing for flexible use of MSS spectrum in the 2 GHz band. I value your views, which will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

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Julius Genachowski